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State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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Via Certified U.S. Mail and electronic mail

March 24, 2011

The Wet Seal, Inc.
Kelly Gorman
Director of Loss Prevention and Risk Management
26972 Burbank
Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

Roger Carrick, Esq.
The Carrick Law Group
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RE: NOTICE OF VIOLATION to the Wet Seal, Inc. (JCT # 3829 & JCT # 3855))
People v. Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse Corp. et al.
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, Case No. RG 04-162075

Dear Ms. Gorman and Mr. Carrick:

I am writing to you about two accessories purchased at The Wet Seal in Berkeley, California that violates the lead standards established in a consent judgment to which your company is a party, and that violates California Health and Safety Code section 25214.2(b)(3). This letter constitutes a Notice of Violation pursuant to Section 4.2 of the consent judgment. A copy of the consent judgment is available on our web site, at <http://ag.ca.gov/prop65/pdfs/-amendedConsent.pdf>.

The first violation was observed in the clasp of a grey necklace with a large heart border pendant. The SKU is 435932800006. Our internal reference number is JCT 3855. (Please use the internal reference numbers in correspondence about this notice.) The second violation is the inside surface of leather on a brown leather bracelet with grey studs. The SKU is 432131700007. Our internal reference number for this item is JCT 3829.

Samples of this accessory were purchased in Berkeley on February 23, 2011. Test results indicate 34% percent lead in the clasp of JCT 3855 and 15,000 ppm lead in leather of JCT 3829. Photos of the pieces, along with the test reports and supporting documentation, are enclosed with this notice.

Lead is a toxic metal that damages the nervous system and other organs. A part of your response to this notice under section 4.2.3 of the consent judgment, we request that you provide data about the amount of the different jewelry items offered for sale, sold, and removed from shelves in your stores in California. We also would like to know what the Wet Seal will do with the jewelry that it will not sell in California, and what measures your company will take to prevent other jewelry with lead from being sold in the future.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

JAMIE JEFFERSON
Deputy Attorney General

For KAMALA HARRIS
Attorney General

Enclosures

cc: Caroline Cox, Center for Environmental Health
Eric Somers, Lexington Law Group
Katherine Moore, Senator Pavley's Office

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